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LOGGING INDUSTRY NEEDS MACHINERY, BETTER ADMINISTRATION

OPEN COMPETITION FOR NEW MACHINES -- *Leninskoye Znaniya*, No 179, 10 Sep 49

The Ministry of Wood and Paper Industry USSR announces an open competition for mechanical machines and tools to be used in limbing felled trees, for a sorting and rafting combine, and for a machine to be used in mechanizing loose floating of logs. The period of the competition is 15 July 1949 to 1 January 1950.

Eligible to take part in the competition are individual engineering and technical workers, designers, and inventors, machine-building plants, scientific research institutes, design bureaus, and higher institutions of learning.

The following prizes are offered for the best models of the mechanical devices stated above after they have been tested and recommended for serial production:

1. For the best mechanical portable-type machine for limbing felled trees, a first prize of 30,000 rubles, two second prizes of 30,000 rubles each, and three third prizes of 20,000 rubles each.
2. For the best mechanical portable-type tool for limbing felled trees, a first prize of 25,000 rubles, two second prizes of 15,000 rubles each, and five third prizes of 5,000 rubles each.
3. For the best sorting and rafting combine or machine, a first prize of 65,000 rubles, two second prizes of 30,000 rubles each, and three third prizes of 25,000 rubles each.
4. For the best machine to be used for loose floating, a first prize of 40,000 rubles, two second prizes of 30,000 rubles each, and five third prizes of 10,000 rubles each.

All entries are to be sent with all necessary documents, drawings, notes, and calculations to the Bureau of Inventions, Ministry of Wood and Paper Industry, USSR.

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ANNOUNCE NEW LUMBERING EQUIPMENT -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 214, 10 Sep 49

Six months ago, the Central Institute for Mechanization and Electrification of the Lumber Industry opened a new Laboratory. Already the laboratory has developed several new types of equipment. Engineer I. Romanovskiy has invented a new electric-block cutting machine which speeds block cutting several times. Engineer I. Kutev has perfected a lumber drier which operates on the waste gases of electric generators operating in the woods.

Testing of a crane attachment for the skidding tractor produced by the Kirov plant is proceeding successfully in the Volosovskiy Timber Management. The crane can be attached to the tractor in 10 minutes and enables the tractor to serve as a wood loader and unloader. It can handle 150 cubic meters per shift. The crane can be attached easily in any mechanical shop.

NEW EQUIPMENT UPS OUTPUT -- Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 180, 10 Sep 49

During recent years, the Belorussian timber industry has received and is still receiving a great quantity of new machines and equipment, such as mobile electric power plants, electric saws, cranes, winches, tractors, trucks, steam locomotives, and railroad motorcars. The new light high-frequency electric saw, operated by one man, increases labor productivity four times as compared with manual sawing; the skidding tractor replaces ten horses; the loading crane permits a reduction in the number of men formerly required for manual loading.

The Bogdanovskiy Timber Management of Minlesprom Trust has initiated the continuous method of logging. Two methods of skidding were organized: one group of workers skids logs with four tractors; another group skids logs on a skyline with a three-drum winch. At the landing, the logs are loaded by cranes onto 1.5-ton narrow-gauge railroad cars, which haul them to Lake Palik. From there they are sent on by waterway. The continuous method has increased production 1 1/2 times at this timber management.

LOGGING ENTERPRISES FACE DIFFICULTIES -- Leninskoye Znaniye, No 173, 2 Sep 49

In the effort to fulfill its special pledge made to Stalin, the Kem Timber Management has fulfilled its 7-month plan for timber skidding 100.6 percent. The Management skidded 40 percent more timber during the first 6 months of 1949 than during the same period of 1948. Party organizations have now been set up at all of the Management's four logging points, with a consequent increase in the number of Communists engaged in logging work. Party agitation is producing exceptional production results at the Avneporozhskiy Logging Point.

The Timber Management is at present striving to meet its pledge to fulfill the year's logging plan by 5 December and to produce 12,000 cubic meters of timber above the plan.

The Kem Timber Management is at a lower level of mechanization than other enterprises of the Karelo-Finnish Republic. During the first 6 months of 1949, felling operations were 13 percent mechanized, but skidding operations were not correspondingly mechanized. The lack of mechanized equipment when logging points are located far from the railroad, as they are in this management, requires a great number of men and horses. Under such conditions, it is difficult to increase labor productivity.

According to plan, the Kem Timber Management is obligated to build in 1949 a new settlement at the Yuma Logging Point for 250 families and a number of service and technical buildings. The Belomorsk Construction Administration of Lesstroytrest (Construction of Timber Enterprises Trust) is carrying out this

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work. However, the Yuma Section of the construction administration had fulfilled the plan only 4.5 percent by 1st August. The construction administration exercises poor supervision over the work of the section by failing to provide supervisory personnel beyond a supervisory chief. Mechanized work is completely lacking.

Another example of administrative stifling of the workers' zeal occurred in March 1949. Due to the short number of daylight hours in this northern region, the foreman of the Yuma Logging Point had worked out an electric lighting system whereby felling with electric saws could also be carried on at night. Tests had shown that production at night was as great as during the day. The rayon party committee approved the plan and requested the Ministry of Wood and Paper Industry through Sevkarrelles (Northern Kamlian Timber) Trust for aid in putting it into effect. However, through the fault of the ministry's technical division the plan was never realized.

If production pledges are to be fulfilled, the Ministry of Wood and Paper Industry and Sevkarrelles Trust must aid the enterprises of the Kam region.

Leninskoye Znanya, No 173, 2 Sep 49

In a letter to the editor, three drivers of the Iambovskiy Logging Point complain that their point is not fulfilling the plan because much of its mechanical equipment is in a state of disrepair and not in use. Parts are removed from some machines and placed on others. Garages which house the machines are without doors and in general disrepair. Lazarev, chief of the logging points, does nothing to improve the situation.

The editors note that the conditions complained about exist also in other timber enterprises and express the hope that the timber ministries will take appropriate measures.

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